IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 667 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please substitute the below pending claims with the corresponding amended claims, as shown below:

23. (Amended fourth time) A solid pharmaceutical composition in a dosage form that is not enteric-coated, comprising: active ingredients consisting essentially of:

(a) a non-enteric coated proton pump inhibitor selected from the group consisting of omeprazole, lansoprazole, rabeprazole, esomeprazole, pantoprazole, pariprazole, and leminoprazole, or an enantiomer, isomer, ~~derivative,~~ free base, or salt thereof, in an amount of approximately 5 mg to approximately 300 mg; and

(b) at least one buffering agent selected from the group consisting of sodium bicarbonate, potassium bicarbonate, a calcium salt, and a magnesium salt, in an amount of approximately 0.1 mEq to approximately 2.5 mEq per mg of proton pump inhibitor;

wherein the dosage form is selected from the group consisting of suspension tablet, chewable tablet, effervescent powder, and effervescent tablet.

24 ~~682~~. (Amended twice) A method for treating an acid-caused gastrointestinal disorder in a subject in need thereof, comprising: administering to the subject a solid pharmaceutical composition in a dosage form that is not enteric-coated; wherein the composition comprises active ingredients consisting essentially of:

(a) a therapeutically effective amount of approximately 5 mg to approximately 300 mg of a non-enteric coated proton pump inhibitor selected from the group consisting of omeprazole, lansoprazole, rabeprazole, esomeprazole, pantoprazole, pariprazole, and leminoprazole, or an enantiomer, isomer, derivative, free base, or salt thereof; and

(b) a buffering agent in an amount of approximately 1.0 mEq to approximately 150 mEq selected from the group consisting of a bicarbonate salt of a group IA metal, a calcium salt, and a magnesium salt, wherein the buffering agent is in an amount sufficient to elevate gastric acid pH of the subject's stomach to prevent or inhibit gastric acid degradation of the non-enteric coated proton pump inhibitor and achieve sufficient bioavailability of the proton pump inhibitor in the subject to elicit a therapeutic effect.